

The Eagle's View

Walgreens Management Tours TRC

Mention "Walgreens" to any TRC employee and you will get a smile followed by "Can you believe it?" The smile and the statement are all because Walgreens believes in working with persons with disabilities and they believe in TRC. Their belief in the TRC programs was evidenced by a visit of Walgreens Management on July 9.

Greeted with welcoming comments from DRS Assistant Commissioner, Cherrell Campbell-Street, the 12 Walgreens managers met with TRC staff and were treated to refreshments made by Food Services' students which included decorated cupcakes with pink lemonade and buttercream icings. They toured the Food Services Program area, the soon-to-open *Sweet Café*, and the new Retail Store prior to their on-campus management meeting.

Pictured L-R, Front Row: Connie Latta, Market Vice-President; Bonnie Kemp, Store Manager; Denise Moore, Community Leader; Jennifer Damron, Store Manager. Back Row: Becky Rhea, Assist. Superintendent TRC Smyrna; Karen Carothers, Supt. TRC Smyrna, Cherrell Campbell-Street, Assist. Commissioner Rehab Services; Traci Gladden, Store Manager; Andy Lyon, Store Manager; Chris Madderom, Store Manager; Keith Ryland, Store Manager; Patrick Butler, Store Manager; Robert Hickman, Store Manager; Tom Shepard, District Manager; and Tom Kakac, Community Leader.



Connecting TBI Services to Referrals

A unique connection occurred in July that has the potential to link the TRC Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) program with several area medical facilities to further enhance the continuum of services for students with traumatic brain injuries.

Rodney Henderson, TrustPoint Hospital Intake Coordinator, and the clinical staff at the Murfreesboro facility hosted a tour for seven TRC/TBI staff to acquaint them with the short term acute care they provide for clients. After the tour, staff of both facilities met to describe and discuss services each provide and the creation of a potential continuum of care between TrustPoint and TRC.

Taking that concept and moving to the next step, Henderson coordinated a meeting of TRC staff and seven out-patient clinic staff from Stonecrest in Murfreesboro, Murfreesboro Baptist Sports Center, and St. Thomas Outpatient Rehab. As a result of that meeting, reciprocal tours of the neuro clinics at Stonecrest and St. Thomas and TBI are planned. The goal of these meetings is a simple one. Each facility plays a part in the successful re-entry of the individual back into the community. Together, each link builds the bridge of services appropriate for clients in their recovery process and eventually their return to work. Referrals from the facilities starting with the hospital to recovery rehab, then to Vocational Rehab Counselor, and finally, to TRC completes that continuum with the provision for service that includes job readiness, job searching, community re-entry job placement and retention.

Success at Its Best



**Chef Debra Noles, Lewis Pierce, and
Southern Foods Director Lawrence Robertson**

Working in every area of the Food Service program under the guidance of the TRC instructors, Lewis Pierce caught the attention of Southern Foods Director Lawrence Robertson.

“What stood out to me was Lewis’ attention to the instructors and to my staff when he was being taught a new task. He listened closely, asked questions, and upon completion of the task, sought approval,” stated Robertson.

Lewis graduated from the TRC Food Service program on February 24, 2012. “I knew Lewis lived close enough to TRC that he would be able to get to work if I offered him a simple utility position with some serving on the line or doing floors. What I did not know was that Lewis was capable of so much more! Working under Chef Debra Noles, Lewis has become a valuable prep person, setting up the cooks' breakfast cart, preparing pizzas, salads and baking cakes and cookies,” he continued.

Southern Foods Chef Debra patiently works with the students at the Center and has taught Lewis supervisory skills to assist the students in training. Chef Debra stated “Lewis is very de-

pendable, demonstrates good work ethics and prepares many food items for Southern Foods daily.” She added “Lewis is able to work any station and can work at any food service establishment.” She stated, “Lewis is my right hand man. He is an asset to his job and an asset to the students here at TRC. We are thankful for Lewis for being a role model to the students in the Food Service Program.”

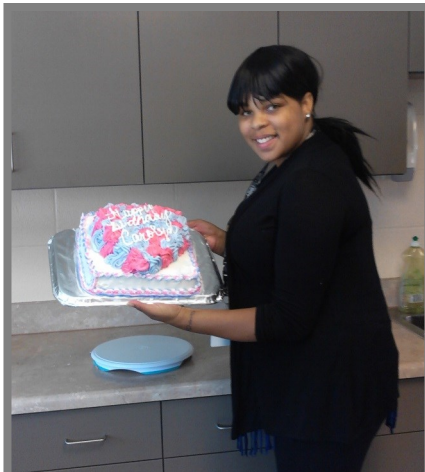


Sweets for the Sweet

Remember the old saying, “*Sweets for the Sweet*”? Early Fall will bring that old adage to TRC with the projected opening of the “*Sweet Café*”. As the remainder of the equipment for the newest addition to the campus arrives, Food Service students are busy practicing their culinary and creative skills required for baking and decorating the “goodies” they

will prepare for purchase. The reality of the opening is evident as the café development nears its end. Functional baking equipment now fills the prep and clean-up area and a dessert display cabinet faces enticingly into the customer area of the café. The espresso themed café chairs that will surround the customer tables add to the relaxed “getaway” atmosphere of the café.

It’s an exciting, learning time for the Food Service students and an anxious wait for those with a “sweet tooth” waiting not so patiently for Opening Day. (L-R) Carolyn Hayes, Christian Aders, Rebecca Wilson, and Tyler VanderHeyden



TRC Hosts Workforce Development Training Sessions



Traditional classroom training took on a new look as TRC students were provided a training opportunity focused on information designed to prepare them for employment and success in the workplace.

Fifty-eight students participated in one of the two June 19 trainings presented on the TRC campus by Juanita Davis, an Instructor from Motlow Community College in Columbia.

The two training sessions were provided through a Department of Labor grant given to Motlow Community College. The training is designed to target a low skill, laid off, or underemployed workforce group who would be seeking entry level positions. Through the grant, these trainings are provided at no cost to agencies and schools.

Topics covered in the trainings included Ethics and Responsibilities with the concentration placed on Time Management, Teamwork, the Definition of Ethics, and Change in the Workplace. The second topic, Effective Communication centered on Written and Oral Communication, Listening, E-Mail Etiquette, and Work Instructions. This information, of course, is most important to TRC students as they pursue employment and provides a different perspective and insight on workplace related issues.

Students stated that they enjoyed Ms. Davis' presentation and their discussions afterward indicated that they found the training to be interesting and relevant to their learning. TRC is grateful to Motlow Community College and Ms. Davis for allowing students the opportunity to participate in the training.



Former Student Special Olympic Medalist

What an honor! What an opportunity! Former TRC Warehouse student and December '13 graduate Casey Martin was selected to participate in the 2014 USA Special Olympic Games in Princeton, NJ June 14-21 as a member of the Tennessee Track and Field Team.

Travelling with his parents and his brother, Casey attended the Opening Ceremony on Sunday, June 15th in Newark, NJ along with 4000 other athletes from all over the United States. All 50 states were represented along with the District of Columbia.

Not only did he participate in the 100M, 200M, 400M and the 4X100M Relay, but he also won his share of medals for his hard work. Running and competing at the Princeton University Track all week, Casey won a silver medal in the 100M, a bronze medal in the 4X100M Relay, and 5th place in the 200M and 400M. His smile and his story tell all when he talks about his trip and the winning of the medals.

Casey and the other athletes were able to experience the trading of pins just like the athletes who participate in the original Olympic Games. The USA Special Olympic games are held every four years in a different state each time. Yea Casey! for a job well done!



Putting Their Skills to the Test



Invited to the annual RED Day at the Rutherford County Boy's & Girl's Club, the Building Maintenance and Grounds Keeping class participated in an External Training Opportunity (ETO) for the students. This event brings a large part of the community together to clean up, paint, rebuild book cases, and mulch all the playgrounds to give all the boys and girls a safe landing at the foot of the swings and slides.

This year, seven TRC students participated along with 30-40 community volunteers.

Pictured top left L-R: Dalton Harvey, Ricky Gates (Rehab Assistant), Alex Roach, Tyler Pregmon. Pictured top right L-R: Alex Roach, Dalton Harvey, Tim Cantrell, Pops (Boy's & Girl's Club), and Matt Gammon

TRC Welcomes New Staff

<i>Nehemiah Johnson</i>	<i>Brooke Cope</i>
<i>Nancy Nesbitt</i>	<i>Anna Pekarski</i>
<i>Nick Holden</i>	<i>Sara Derington</i>
<i>Ellie Pepper</i>	<i>Melanie Gordon</i>
<i>Neal Carroll</i>	<i>Courtney Chockley</i>
<i>Brent Browning</i>	<i>Kenneth Mory</i>
	<i>Hayley Bratcher</i>

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF
HUMAN SERVICES



Helping shape Tennessee lives.

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<http://www.tn.gov/humanserv/rehab/trc.html>

Mission Statement

Tennessee Rehabilitation Center-Smyrna offers person-centered comprehensive services in a supportive learning environment to individuals with disabilities to increase independence and employment potential.

Organizational Values

Because we value our students:

We are considerate
We are knowledgeable
We are resourceful and creative
We are flexible and adaptable
We are committed to excellence
We are leading by example
We are attentive and responsive to students' needs
We are making a POSITIVE difference